



1997 SENATE BILL 364

November 26, 1997 - Introduced by JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT to create** 15.377 (8) and 115.42 of the statutes; **relating to:** creating a
2 professional standards council for teachers.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill is explained in the NOTE provided by the joint legislative council in the bill.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

PREFATORY NOTE: This bill has been prepared for the joint legislative council's special committee on teacher preparation, licensure and regulation.

The bill contains the following provisions:

SECTION 1 creates a statutory professional standards council for teachers (council) in the department of public instruction (department). This SECTION also sets forth the members of the council who are each appointed by the state superintendent of public instruction (state superintendent). The council consists of the following 17 members:

1. Two persons licensed and employed as elementary school teachers in the public schools, nominated by the largest statewide labor organization representing teachers.

2. Two persons licensed and employed as middle school, junior high school or senior high school teachers in the public schools, nominated by the largest statewide labor organization representing teachers.

3. Two persons licensed and employed as pupil services professionals in the public schools, nominated by the largest statewide labor organization representing teachers.

4. One person licensed and employed as a school special education teacher in the public schools, nominated by the largest statewide labor organization representing teachers.

5. Two other persons licensed and employed as school teachers in the public schools, nominated by the largest statewide labor organization representing teachers.

6. One public school district administrator, nominated by the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators.

7. One public school principal, nominated by the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators.

8. One faculty member of a department or school of education in the University of Wisconsin (UW) System, nominated by the president of the UW System.

9. One faculty member of a department or school of education in a private college in Wisconsin, nominated by the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU).

10. One additional faculty member, appointed from the lists of nominees submitted by the UW System and WAICU.

11. One school board member nominated by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards.

12. One person who is a parent of a child who is enrolled in a public school.

13. One person who is a student enrolled in a teacher preparatory program leading to initial licensure as a teacher.

For each vacancy on the council, the group or entity authorized to nominate members is required to submit the names of 3 qualified persons to the state superintendent.

Each council member serves a 3-year term, except for the student member, who serves a 2-year term.

The council is required to meet on a regular basis at least twice each year.

The purpose of the council is to ensure quality in the profession of teaching by recommending to the state superintendent a set of high standards for licensing that maintains quality classroom teaching, addresses the changing needs for the instruction of pupils in the state and provides for the continual professional development of teachers. The primary focus of the council is on classroom teaching.

The duties of the council as set forth in the bill are as follows:

1. Advise the state superintendent on standards for the licensure of teachers, including initial licensure and maintenance and renewal of licenses, to ensure the effective teaching of a relevant curriculum.

2. Propose to the state superintendent standards for evaluating and approving teacher education programs, including continuing education programs.

3. Provide to the state superintendent an ongoing assessment of the complexities of teaching and the status of the teaching profession in Wisconsin.

4. Propose to the state superintendent policies and practices for school boards and teacher organizations to utilize in developing effective teaching.

5. Propose to the state superintendent standards and procedures for the revocation of a teaching license.

6. Propose to the state superintendent ways to recognize excellence in teaching, including the assessment administered by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and master educator licensure, and to assist teachers in achieving excellence in teaching.

7. Propose to the state superintendent effective peer assistance and peer monitoring models, including evaluation systems, and alternative teacher dismissal procedures for consideration by school boards and labor organizations.

8. Review and make recommendations regarding administrative rules proposed by the department that relate to teacher preparation, licensure and regulation.

9. Propose to the state superintendent alternative procedures for the preparation and licensure of teachers.

10. At the request of the state superintendent, review and assess complaints, suggestions or inquiries relating to the licensure and preparation of school personnel or other educational matters and advise the state superintendent as to appropriate responses or actions.

11. Report annually to the legislature on the activities and effectiveness of the council.

SECTION 3 contains provisions to implement a staggering of the 3-year terms for the appointed members.

1 **SECTION 1.** 15.377 (8) of the statutes is created to read:

2 15.377 (8) PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COUNCIL FOR TEACHERS. (a) *Definition.* In
3 this subsection, "labor organization" means an association of employe organizations
4 that represents the public policy, labor and professional interests of teachers.

5 (b) *Creation.* There is created a professional standards council for teachers in
6 the department of public instruction.

7 (c) *Members.* The professional standards council for teachers shall consist of
8 the following members, appointed by the state superintendent of public instruction:

9 1. Two persons licensed and employed as elementary school teachers in the
10 public schools, nominated by the largest statewide labor organization representing
11 teachers.

12 2. Two persons licensed and employed as middle school, junior high school or
13 senior high school teachers in the public schools, nominated by the largest statewide
14 labor organization representing teachers.

15 3. Two persons licensed and employed as pupil services professionals, as
16 defined in s. 118.257 (1) (c), in the public schools, nominated by the largest statewide
17 labor organization representing teachers.

18 4. One person licensed and employed as a special education teacher in the
19 public schools, nominated by the largest statewide labor organization representing
20 teachers.

21 5. Two other persons licensed and employed as teachers in the public schools,
22 nominated by the largest statewide labor organization representing teachers.

23 6. One public school district administrator, nominated by the Wisconsin
24 Association of School District Administrators.

1 7. One public school principal, nominated by the Association of Wisconsin
2 School Administrators.

3 8. One faculty member of a department or school of education in the University
4 of Wisconsin System, nominated by the president of the University of Wisconsin
5 System.

6 9. One faculty member of a department or school of education in a private
7 college in Wisconsin, nominated by the Wisconsin Association of Independent
8 Colleges and Universities.

9 10. One additional faculty member, appointed from the list of nominees
10 submitted under subd. 8. or 9.

11 11. One member of a public school board, nominated by the Wisconsin
12 Association of School Boards.

13 12. One person who is a parent of a child who is enrolled in a public school.

14 13. One person who is a student enrolled in a teacher preparatory program,
15 located in this state, that leads to initial licensure as a teacher.

16 (d) *Nominations.* For each vacancy on the council under par. (c) 1. to 9. and 11.,
17 the entity authorized to nominate a member shall provide the names of 3 qualified
18 persons to the state superintendent of public instruction.

19 (e) *Terms.* Members of the council shall serve 3-year terms except that the
20 student appointed under par. (c) 13. shall serve a 2-year term.

21 (f) *Meetings.* The council shall meet on a regular basis and at least twice each
22 year.

23 **SECTION 2.** 115.42 of the statutes is created to read:

24 **115.42 Professional standards council for teachers.** The professional
25 standards council for teachers shall do all of the following:

1 **(1)** Advise the state superintendent on standards for the licensure of teachers,
2 including initial licensure and maintenance and renewal of licenses, to ensure the
3 effective teaching of a relevant curriculum in Wisconsin schools.

4 **(2)** Propose to the state superintendent standards for evaluating and
5 approving teacher education programs, including continuing education programs.

6 **(3)** Provide to the state superintendent an ongoing assessment of the
7 complexities of teaching and the status of the teaching profession in this state.

8 **(4)** Propose to the state superintendent policies and practices for school boards
9 and state and local teacher organizations to use in developing effective teaching.

10 **(5)** Propose to the state superintendent standards and procedures for revoking
11 a teaching license.

12 **(6)** Propose to the state superintendent ways to recognize excellence in
13 teaching, including the assessment administered by the National Board for
14 Professional Teaching Standards and master educator licensure, and to assist
15 teachers to achieve excellence in teaching.

16 **(7)** Propose to the state superintendent effective peer assistance and peer
17 mentoring models, including evaluation systems, and alternative teacher dismissal
18 procedures for consideration by school boards and labor organizations.

19 **(8)** Review and make recommendations regarding administrative rules
20 proposed by the department that relate to teacher preparation, licensure and
21 regulation.

22 **(9)** Propose to the state superintendent alternative procedures for the
23 preparation and licensure of teachers.

24 **(10)** At the request of the state superintendent, review and assess complaints,
25 suggestions or inquiries relating to the licensure and preparation of school personnel

1 or other educational matters and advise the state superintendent regarding
2 appropriate responses or actions.

3 (11) Report annually to the standing committees in each house of the
4 legislature that deal with education matters on the activities and effectiveness of the
5 council.

6 **SECTION 3. Nonstatutory provisions.**

7 (1) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS. Notwithstanding section 15.377 (8) (e) of the
8 statutes, as created by this act, the initial terms of one of the members appointed
9 under section 15.377 (8) (c) 1. of the statutes, as created by this act, one of the
10 members appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 3. of the statutes, as created by this
11 act, one of the members appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 5. of the statutes, as
12 created by this act, the member appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 10. of the
13 statutes, as created by this act, and the member appointed under section 15.377 (8)
14 (c) 12. of the statutes, as created by this act, expire on July 1, 1999; the initial terms
15 of one of the members appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 2. of the statutes, as
16 created by this act, the member appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 4. of the
17 statutes, as created by this act, one of the members appointed under section 15.377
18 (8) (c) 5. of the statutes, as created by this act, the member appointed under section
19 15.377 (8) (c) 6. of the statutes, as created by this act, the member appointed under
20 section 15.377 (8) (c) 7. of the statutes, as created by this act, and the member
21 appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 13. of the statutes, as created by this act, expire
22 on July 1, 2000; and the initial terms of one of the members appointed under section
23 15.377 (8) (c) 1. of the statutes, as created by this act, one of the members appointed
24 under section 15.377 (8) (c) 2. of the statutes, as created by this act, one of the
25 members appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 3. of the statutes, as created by this

1 act, the member appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 8. of the statutes, as created
2 by this act, the member appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 9. of the statutes, as
3 created by this act, and the member appointed under section 15.377 (8) (c) 11. of the
4 statutes, as created by this act, expire on July 1, 2001.

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(END)